

ABSTRACT

In one embodiment, the invention provides a method for examining information about branch instructions. A method, comprising: examining information about branch instructions that reach a write-back stage of processing within a processor, defining a plurality of streams based on the examining, wherein each stream comprises a sequence of basic blocks in which only a last block in the sequence ends in a branch instruction, the execution of which causes program flow to branch, the remaining basic blocks in the stream each ending in a branch instruction, the execution of which does not cause program flow to branch.